

NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC LIBRARY

NOV 3 - 1943

# Bulletin

of the



## LOUISIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Vol. 7, No. 1

September, 1943

Published Quarterly in New Orleans

# THE BULLETIN . . . OF THE LOUISIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 7

SEPTEMBER, 1943

NUMBER 1

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY AT NEW ORLEANS, LA.

## EDITORIAL STAFF

ROBERT J. USHER	Editor
Librarian, Howard-Tilton Memorial Library, New Orleans.	
MARGARET DIXON	Assistant Editor, Parish Libraries
Assistant, Louisiana Library Commission, Baton Rouge.	
MARION TAYLOR	Assistant Editor, Public Libraries
Librarian, Winn Parish Library, Winnfield.	
GEORGETTE RICHARD	Assistant Editor, School Libraries
Librarian, Donaldsonville High School	
DOROTHY BECKEMEYER	Assistant Editor, College and Reference Libraries
Librarian, Southern Regional Research Laboratory, New Orleans.	
EDNA MAE TEMPLEY	Assistant Editor, Junior Members
Librarian, St. Martinville High School	
EVELYN PETERS	Advertising Manager
Librarian, Orleans Parish School Board Professional Library, New Orleans.	
SISTER MARY REDEMPTA	Assistant Editor, Libraries for Negroes
Librarian Xavier University, New Orleans.	

## LOUISIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Officers for 1943-1944

PRESIDENT	MISS SALLIE FARRELL
Librarian, Rapides Parish Library Demonstration, Alexandria	
1st VICE-PRESIDENT	MISS LOMA KNIGHTEN
Librarian, Southwestern Louisiana Institute, Lafayette	
2nd VICE-PRESIDENT	MISS PATRICIA MOTTE
Librarian, Terrebonne Parish Library, Houma	
SECRETARY	MISS DOROTHY BECKEMEYER
Librarian, Southern Regional Research Laboratory, New Orleans	
TREASURER	MISS S. METELLA WILLIAMS
Asst. Professor, Louisiana State University Library, Baton Rouge	

## CAMP LIBRARIES IN LOUISIANA IN WORLD WAR II

Reference librarians are frequently asked for information on the part played by Louisiana in the First World War. Questions are asked about civilian activities, about the work of the Red Cross, about the location of various training centers and, occasionally, about the part then played by libraries. The aggregate information on these subjects in convenient form is surprisingly meagre. Much remains undone. What is true of an earlier war is likely to be true with relation to our part in the present global struggle. A hundred years from now Louisiana librarians will be interested in knowing what was done in 1943 through the help of camp libraries to build up morale and to aid directly

in solving problems concerned with winning the war and the peace.

With this thought in mind, this number of the Bulletin is given over largely to an account of Louisiana's various army and navy libraries. The descriptions of these institutions have been graciously furnished by the librarians in charge. Their statements have been carefully checked by supervising officers. To all who have contributed in making the record what it is our thanks are extended. There have been delays in assembling these facts. If there have been any omissions, it is because information requested was not supplied.

### CAMP HARAHAN---LIBRARY

*By Janet Riley, Librarian*

Transportation—trains, engines, freight cars, landships, cargo, stowage, trucks, ports—everything relating to transportation—has become the vital interest of the average soldier at the Camp Harahan, for he is probably a member of the Transportation Corps of Army Service Forces, and its decisions and his life are intricately involved. As a result, the major part of the reference questions that come to the Camp Library concern transportation. It is probably in that respect that this library differs from others serving Armed Forces in Louisiana.

Besides the Replacement Training Center, the Transportation Corps also has here its Officer Candidate School, so that our questions range from those of the longshoreman to those of the port administrator—from those asked by the train switchman to the traffic manager. It is encouraging to note how many of the men are experienced as civilians in railroading and steamships. They know the literature of their subject and ask for it by author or even publisher.

This camp has many other interests besides transportation. The Army Service Forces

have here also its Unit Training Center. Hospital and Medical units in training ask us for information about diseases and sanitation. Soldiers get on waiting lists to reserve books on General Classification tests, O.C.S. opportunities, Infantry Drill Regulations, and various branches of the army to which some expect to transfer—but these latter requests, I am sure, are typical of just any army library.

Today's army is made up of the general public, so that, aside from these specialties, our requests resemble those of a public library almost exactly. The boys who always wanted to catch up on the classics are doing it now. Those who usually kept in touch with latest things out are still the up-to-the-minute conversationalists they once were, as a result of having books available in their camps. The mystery and western readers are still devouring their favorite authors, while the poetry readers have asked specifically for Shelley, Dorothy Parker, Ogden Nash and Longfellow.

The camp depends a great deal on recreational facilities within the post. Library No.

1, a two-story wing of Service Club No. 1, is cheerful, well-lighted and comfortable. Easy chairs of leather and chromium, light oak furniture, venetian blinds, and asphalt tile floors combine to produce an atmosphere of relaxation. Service for negro troops is available in a branch, Library No. 2 in Service Club No. 2.

Books, tables and chairs, the charging desk and a small storage room are downstairs. The second floor is a big reading and writing room with popular and military magazines and newspapers. Featured is a huge map of the world occupying most of one end wall. Plans are to build around this an Orientation Corner, which will correspond to the average library's War Information Center, and will aim in answering the eternal question of a soldier of this present day army—Why am I here?

The library is comparatively new. The first librarian, Mrs. Robert Evans, the former Miss Anne Giddens, was employed last October and left at the end of July to be married. Circulation of books began in the middle of March. We have less than three and one half thousand books, but plan to double this number within the coming year. The staff consists of a professional librarian and assistant librarian, two college graduate clerical assistants, and two colored enlisted men as porters. Miss Harriet Lemann is the Assistant Librarian. Miss Elmore Ehrett and Miss Mary Zimmermann are the clerical assistants.

We work from nine till five-thirty and from two-thirty till eleven on alternating days. The library is open only from twelve till one and from four-thirty till eleven, but must be staffed from nine in the morning. Daily duties are not so different from those of a small public library. Overdue notices, reserve notices and new registrations must be typed and books shelved in the morning. The mail, mostly magazines and newspapers, is sorted, checked and shelved in the afternoon. The rate at which we buy and receive new books is probably faster than that of a community supported library, as we are still getting started, so that we are constantly ac-

cessioning and cataloging—in a very simplified form.

Of course, our property records are quite a bit more complicated than those of an average library, for we have their systems plus those required in Army Regulations. Also, "chasing overdues" in the army takes up quite a bit of time. Our borrowers' application cards are kept on file according to military organizations, in the order given on the weekly Station List, constantly being revised, so that all the borrowers from one "outfit" are together and can be cleared if the company leaves. Enlisted men must have the signature of their company commander in order to borrow books. All commissioned officers, before leaving this camp, must have their clearance record signed by the librarian certifying that neither they nor the men they have signed for, have books out. Many camps do not require this.

Our busy hours are from six till nine in the evening—and we are rushing breathlessly the whole time. During those hours every one of our two hundred twenty-four chairs is full and men are sitting on the floor and crowding the aisles in the stacks. Almost abruptly at nine, the rush stops, and the ubiquitous letter writers are practically our only companions. Our average daily circulation is small—only thirty-seven and one half in August, hitting occasional highs in the fifties and sixties—but many men read in the library regularly and never take a book out, as the best reading conditions are in the library. We are entirely informal, with smoking allowed and no silence rules, yet invariably an atmosphere of quiet prevails, enforced only by public opinion and the appreciation of a restful spot in the camp. This, I feel sure, will be far truer if we get the separate library building we have requested.

Still a source of amazement to me is the fact that this "recreational building," as it is classified, is used mostly for serious study, whether for advancement within the army, for training in post-war careers, for better understanding of this week's instructional course, for cultural advancement, for pursuit of worthwhile hobby, for "know-why" about



the war, or just to get tomorrow's job done right. Whatever the purpose, most of those soldiers out here who are reading, are "reading with a purpose."

## The Post Library of La Garde General Hospital

*By Kathryn T. Hanley, Librarian*

La Garde General Hospital began operating in June, 1941. At that time a small library was inaugurated for the men of the medical detachment stationed at La Garde. A few months later, the Red Cross Recreation Building was opened for the patients. In the Recreation Building one room was set aside as a reading room and lounge, and was stocked with gift books and magazines. In December, 1941, the Hospital Library was established, with quarters in the Red Cross Recreation Building, and Miss Kathryn Hanley, of the staff of the Howard-Tilton Library of Tulane University was appointed Librarian. The Red Cross turned over to the Hospital Library its book collection, with which the new Librarian started giving service.

Exactly two months thereafter the Hospital Library had outgrown its quarters, and a move was made into a new building. At the time of the move, it was decided to combine the Hospital Library and the Detachment Library, from which combination the Post Library was born. The building assigned to the Library was admirably situated, between the wards of the Hospital and the quarters of the medical detachment men, across the road from the Post Exchange and the Recreation Building, and next to the detachment men's mess-hall. Shelves were built around the walls, and the interior was entirely refinished. It looked rather cavernous with the two small collections moved into it, and a little borrowed furniture spread about in it, but within a short time the new books started coming in, the new furniture was delivered, and it soon became necessary to add wooden stacks to the original wall

shelving. At the present time, with a collection of 9,000, all of our shelves are full to bursting. We have a very cheerful reading room, with cushioned maple furniture, writing desks and tables, floor ash trays, fluorescent ceiling lights, reading lamps, and as many of the conveniences of home as we are able to supply. The problem of reaching bed patients with library service has long since been solved by hospital librarians with ambulatory book truck or bed bumper service. At La Garde, this feature of the work is handled by volunteer workers. In order to reach each ward twice a week, the book truck goes out on a regular route every morning, and four afternoons a week. Our trucks, which were built by the hospital workmen, are extra size. They leave the library on each trip with about 150 books and thirty to forty current or new magazines. One shelf must, of course, be left empty for "returns". Two volunteer workers push the truck, charge out, renew and exchange books, filling out forms for each transaction, distribute magazines, and take requests from patients for titles not on the truck. The average "Route" is five to seven wards, and our schedule of wards and workers is so arranged that the same worker covers the same wards each time she comes, whether once or twice a week. In this way, the patients become accustomed to a particular worker, and she, in turn, learns something of her wards and of the reading tastes in general in them, as well as those of particular individuals. In addition to ward work, volunteer workers perform a number of other tasks in the Library, such as typing, checking, filing, marking, shellacking, accessioning, statistics and circulation work.

The present library staff consists of the Librarian, two Sergeants, and fourteen volunteer workers, all working under the supervision of the Post Library Officers.

The Library is open eighty-six hours a week, daily from 8 a. m. until 9 p. m., and Sunday from 1 p. m. until 9 p. m. About half of the books circulated go out over the desk, and half to the wards. Statistics as such never give an accurate picture of an institution, but averages do help to fill out

the picture. Herewith are a few averages. Our daily circulation is approximately 120 books; daily attendance 100 readers. Our collection contains about 9000 books, half of which are fiction, and half non-fiction. About half of our books were purchased, the rest given. We subscribe to twenty-six magazines, for many of which we have more than one subscription, and have been given a number of magazine subscriptions in addition to those for which we pay. We circulate books for one week, with one renewal, and, in special cases subsequent renewals. We charge no fines for overdue, and seldom have any to contend with.

It is hardly necessary to mention the personal satisfaction to be had from hospital library work. We librarians are inclined to think of our job as a thankless one, but we have our reward in the occasional borrower for whom we have been able to do tangible good. In an Army Hospital, such borrowers are frequently met. Many men who, under normal conditions have neither the time nor the inclination to read, find it an invaluable pastime when they are ill. Many others who have hoped for years for an opportunity to study a new subject, or brush up on an old one find such an opportunity in the period of hospitalization. The bulk of our collection and circulation is, of course, recreational, but every effort is made to maintain an adequate supply of Text Material. No matter who the patient is, what type of book he requests, or what the reason behind his request is, we make every effort to supply it. And we feel that we have a few converted bibliophobes to our credit.

---

## The Harding Field Air Base Library

*By Louise Nabors, Librarian*

The Harding Field Air Base Library, a department of the Special Service Division, is one on the beam from 9 A. M. to 9 P. M. daily and from 1 to 5 P. M. on Sundays. En-

listed men, officers, WACs, and civilian employees are served by a civilian librarian and two WAC assistants. There is never a dull moment. The work is thrilling, exciting, stimulating, and satisfying.

If you were to visit the Base Library, this is what you would hear and see:

What is the deepest river in the world? Where is Oberammergau? Have you a book on meteorology? Where are the mathematics books? May I do a little sewing here? Have you any paper—I want to write a letter? Where can I find the Morse code? How do you spell taxying? Where is Camp Lee located? How many miles is it to Rochester? Will you sign this clearance? How do you get books? Do you have anything on child-care? What states are included in the Third Air Force? Who is the treasurer of the United States? Who are the four-star generals? How do you make a recording? Do you have a book on the electoral college?

Many questions are received by telephone, too, and careful thought and attention are given to answering all questions asked. If the requested material is not found in the library, it is borrowed for the soldier.

The library was first organized October 1, 1941. Five hundred gift books were deposited in the small dressing room in the Recreation Hall and enlisted men were placed in charge of the collection. Later the library was moved to a new location and a thousand well-chosen books, non-fiction and fiction, were deposited in the reading room by the East Baton Rouge Parish Library. An additional room was provided and several clubs in Baton Rouge helped to decorate and furnish the rooms. Curtains were made for the windows, a lovely library painting was lent to hang in the reading room, two magazine racks were lent by the Louisiana State University Library, comfortable over-stuffed chairs and floor lamps were donated by the clubwomen; and as a result of this fine cooperation and response, library facilities were made available for the men.

On April 1st, 1943, Government funds were allotted to establish an Army library and the present librarian was appointed. It has



VIEW OF LIBRARY READING ROOM, HARDING FIELD

Cut supplied through courtesy Field Base Photo Service

been her privilege and joy to select and order the basic book collection, magazines, newspapers, supplies, and furniture, and plan the new building. By observing carefully the books the soldiers read and by talking with them, the librarian received ideas and suggestions about the types of books preferred and needed. The selection was based upon the interests indicated by the men. The reference collection is small but adequate. There are several encyclopedias, a quotation book, the World Almanac, an atlas, an unabridged dictionary, foreign language dictionaries, Who's Who in America, and a few specialized technical dictionaries.

The library is in a long narrow building located on the same street as Headquarters. Near the entrance is the librarian's office

which has a glass window, 3 x 6 feet, allowing her to supervise the entire room while at her desk. A small work and storage room adjoins the office. Rest rooms are located at the opposite end of the building. The circulation desk and display case are near the entrance and the remaining space is used for the reading room and stacks. The new furniture is dark oak. The bulletin board is by the front door. Comfortable chairs and floor lamps are placed against the walls. The color scheme is very pleasing and attractive; the ceiling is painted light green and the walls canary yellow. The woodwork is dark; the window frames and doors are white. Two large attic fans make the building very cool and pleasant and the lighting facilities are adequate. The library is a cheerful, com-

fortable, quiet, and inviting place for the soldiers to spend their leisure time.

The collection is composed of U. S. government books, an Army Air Force Technical Library, East Baton Rouge Parish Library books, and Air Base books, which are gifts. All the books are accessioned, classified, and catalogued. They are shelved according to Dewey in one collection. The catalog cards and the books are marked to indicate to which collection each belongs. There is a separate catalog for the parish library books.

In the Service Club there is a deposit station consisting of two hundred books. The Officer-in-Charge supervises the circulation of these books. Another collection is being prepared for the dayroom of the WAC company. The service will be expanded to other dayrooms and the hospital. Gift books are being used for these stations.

If a collection of testimonials had been recorded, it would include: "This is a good deal." "The best army library I've used since I was inducted." "I'm surprised to find such a complete collection and good choice of books." "The library is the most comfortable, quietest, coolest, and friendliest place on the base." Such responses from the enlisted men and officers answer the question: "Are libraries and librarians playing an important role in helping to win the war?" May we continue to serve the soldiers and hear them say, "Ask the librarian; she will help you?"

## Esler Field Library

*Army Air Base, Esler Field, Louisiana*

*By Nell Y. Russell, Librarian*

"When will the new books be ready for circulation" has been the hue and cry of the soldier at Esler Field Library for the past few weeks. With 1800 new and gaily jacketed books tempting the onlooker, the librarian has had to explain the various processes a book must go through before it is ready for circulation. The would-be reader is then directed to the shelves containing books do-

nated through the Victory Book Campaign and here he browses blissfully, finding many a title he has intended reading for years.

The library at Esler Field was officially established with the coming of the librarian on June 21, 1943. From January, 1943 up to this date the library has consisted of 2,000 Victory books and 25 magazine subscriptions, the Special Service Officer and his assistants being in charge.

Since June 21, 1943, the librarian has been busily ordering books and equipment and at present is attempting to combine the two in a way to make them acceptable and accessible to the reader. The collection is ably supplemented by the Traveling Library, which contains 100 recent and readable titles. These are changed every three months.

Requests are numerous and seem to be along the same lines as those of other camp or base libraries. Soldiers like to read fiction but not to the extent that the general public is inclined to believe. The most frequent requests are for books on mathematics. Interest is great in the correspondence courses offered by the Armed Forces Institute and the library is used in connection with these courses.

Other requests cover such topics as physics, chemistry, psychology, and especially photography. Requests which cannot be filled with the collection at hand are sent to the Rapides Parish Library in Alexandria, 16 miles from Esler Field. The few that cannot be filled there are then sent to the Library Commission at Baton Rouge. Result: pleased and satisfied customers.

Publicity is handled through weekly articles published in the field paper, Esler Star and Wings. A recent innovation is the monthly book review given in the library by either the librarian or one of the soldiers. Miss Sallie Farrell of Rapides Parish Library has been "booked" for next month's review.

The library is temporarily housed in a former barracks building along with the Special Service Office. Hours are 8:30 a. m.-11:30 a. m., 1 p. m.-4:30 p. m., 6 p. m.-9 p. m., daily except Sunday when the hours are 2 p. m.-4:30 p. m., 6 p. m.-9 p. m.



It is expected eventually to establish two branches, one on the opposite side of the field which is about one mile from the library, and one at Pollock Air Base, about 8 miles away. More Victory Books have just arrived and will be of great service in setting up these branches.

But "first things first," and the issue at hand is to quell that cry of "When will the new books be ready for circulation?"

## North Camp Polk Library

*By Edmee Hanchey, Librarian*

At closing time one night a tall, good-natured looking soldier stood by my desk, grinned, and gave a long, loud whistle. "From the time when I was a youngster in high school until I finished Columbia, I've always wanted to do that in a library just to see what would happen," he explained carefully, and walked out the door. An atmosphere of informality prevails yet the library is not noisy. Tables flanked by ash trays, comfortable chairs, curtains, green pot plants, and stacks with attractive red shelving all contribute toward making a desirable place in which to browse, ponder on the injustices of doing KP, or write letters home.

The North Camp Polk library occupies one wing of the balcony of the Service Club. Space is inadequate and plans have been made for a separate building. The collection is as varied and individual as the boys who use it. In one day the library may be visited by a member of the Readers Digest staff, two or three college professors, a man who was first violinist for the Cincinnati symphony orchestra, a professional organizer of labor unions, a former bookmaker for horse races, a truck driver, a snare drummer, or a commercial artist. The Army librarian must provide for the user who persistently asks for books on witchcraft, for one who has plans for a career of radio engineering after the war, for a radio announcer who wants a book on diction, or for the shy eighteen-year-old who hesitantly asks for a book of football stories. These are only a few of the hun-

dreds of different requests received every day. One that I have not yet filled was voiced during an unusually long black-out when even cigarettes were not permitted: "Please, Miss, I would like an illuminated book made especially for black-outs." Recently a very young, blue-eyed blond soldier planted himself firmly before the desk and said, "Doesn't THE STRANGE WOMAN ever stay in- I'm from Bangor, Maine, and she is supposed to have lived there. I want to see what she did to my home town."

At the present time the book collection numbers approximately four and a half thousand volumes, an increase of two thousand books since the library was opened November 16, 1942. There are 45 magazines and 20 newspapers. An allotment of \$60.00 is given to the library each month from the camp welfare fund. Thirty-seven day rooms on the post are stocked with Victory books and current magazines. Many of the companies have their own subscriptions to the magazines such as Time, Look, Life, etc.

Records are kept to a minimum. Cataloging is very simply done. Usually a boy doesn't use the catalog but merely asks, "Where are your books on engineering and mathematics?" or "Where is your psychology shelf?" More often he browses until he finds something. Overdue notices are sent regularly as borrowers are frequently lax about returning books. A boy may keep a volume two months then appear at the library with a disarming, unembarrassed, "I'm afraid this is a little overdue. I promise to do better next time." Fines cannot be charged. One eccentric lad just would not return a particular title, though he came every week. Two notes to the commanding officer brought this reply, "The book, SELECTED FRENCH SHORT STORIES, will be returned—and, uh, if it's that good I might want to read it myself!"

Circulation is recorded but we are not unduly alarmed if only fifty books are taken out in a single night. However, circulation averages from 2,000 to 3,000 each week. Service in every way possible is stressed, and use of the library cannot be measured in terms of statistics. Many boys come night

after night to lean against the stacks and browse, to read magazines, or perhaps join an animated discussion in one corner as to which state in the Union is "God's Country" and why. Often a soldier brings his family, or girl friend, waves an airy hand toward the stacks with the statement: "This is the library. You can take books out if you want to. Me, I had to read a couple in school once, but not no more." Then there are the habitual readers who devour everything from latest books on the war to "The Little Prince" and "Wind In The Willows."

The librarian may be asked to sponsor an open forum discussion of current events, provide a place for a sketching class, or help organize refresher courses in mathematics for boys who wish to transfer to the Air Corps. North Camp Polk is occupied at present by the Eighth Armored Division. Many boys study for advancement within the division or for transfer to another branch of service, or for the Army Specialized Training Program whereby boys are sent to college for a certain period of time.

Any displays in the library create an unusual amount of interest. In the spring and early summer when snakes and spiders appear in numbers, we were "swamped" with eighteen and nineteen-year-old recruits just inducted into the army. The 78th Medical Battalion had given us temporary loan of their snake and insect collection. There were a number of good specimens of poisonous snakes, particularly the coral and cotton-mouth moccasin both of which are common in this part of Louisiana. Boys destined to go on bivouacs pored over the books on snakes by the hour. One live rattler was a star attraction until the colored boy who swept at night discovered it and threatened to "quit unless them live snakes is removed from here." Other publicity is obtained through posters, new book lists, and weekly articles in "The Armorer", the camp newspaper.

The library is open from 8:00 a. m. until 10:00 p. m. seven days a week. I have one assistant, a graduate of Mt. Holyoke, wife of a soldier stationed on the post. There is no

station complement attached to North Camp Polk, so no soldier assistance is available. Members of a combat unit are not allowed to have duty of this type. The librarian is entitled to one day off each week, twenty-six days annual leave plus sick leave.

Hours are long and the work seems never-ending but every day brings something new and interesting. There is also the lack of the feeling of regimentation and dullness of routine given by some library work. For leisure moments the librarian may go to the nearby movies, attend a regular weekly dance, or go for a swim in the pool. If you still have any spare time you may use it in practicing a dignified, twenty-six year old look for the three khaki clad figures who align themselves before the desk and say, "We can't find any book that we would like. What are *you* doing tonight?"

## Naval Station Library Algiers, La.

*By Laura Monroe, Acting Librarian*

The Naval Station Library at Algiers, Louisiana, was opened in May 1942. We now have about five thousand volumes on our shelves. These books consist of reference books such as encyclopedias, dictionaries, and books on technical subjects; a non-fiction department which covers biography, travel, history, aviation, music, poetry, and books on the present war.

Westerns and mystery books are the most popular and we are well prepared to meet the demand for books of this sort. We have a fair selection of novels including most of the so-called "Books of the Month".

We are constantly adding to the number of books on hand. We receive each month a generous shipment from the Bureau of Naval Personnel, the Victory Book Guild, and other similar sources of supply. In addition we have a small fund which enables us to buy a few books each month that have been requested by the men.

The men seem to enjoy and make good use of the library. They have the privilege of taking books to their barracks or reading them in the library, whichever they prefer to do. In addition to the books, we have many popular magazines and newspapers. The U. S. O. has been very kind in furnishing us with stationery to be distributed to the men.

The library is also called upon to furnish books and magazines to all ships leaving from this station. The number of books furnished ships varies from fifty to one hundred and fifty, depending upon the size of the crew.

I think that it can be truthfully said that the Naval Station here has reason to be proud of its library and the service it renders men in their leisure time.

---

## Camp Livingston Library No. 1

*By Mary C. Proctor, Librarian*

Camp Livingston Library No. 1 was first opened in the late part of 1941, located in the balcony of the service club. However in November of 1942 it was moved to its present location in a separate library building. This location is very much better as it affords a quiet place for the men to read and look at books. At present it will seat very comfortably about forty-five besides the number of men who spend hours looking at the books and periodicals.

The building is not a regulation library building but is quite satisfactory. It is equipped with tables, comfortable chairs, a charging desk, several magazine and newspaper racks and all necessary equipment for any library. When considering the number of men in camp, it would seem very inadequate to have such a small seating capacity, but it is quite adequate for serving the men who are located within reasonable walking distance. One of the greatest disadvantages, is the fact that so many men live too far away to use the facilities of the library.

Miss Virginia MacDonald, the librarian un-

til the present time, did her work with the assistance of enlisted men who were assigned to work in the library. At present I have as an assistant an unprofessionally trained person who is a typist and has a very good knowledge of books. At all times either she is or I am on duty to give any assistance needed. In this way one of the greatest problems to meet in camp library work, that of securing help which is dependable and regular, is greatly lessened. Having her to assist provides the opportunity to give a great deal more individual help than would otherwise be possible. We also expect very soon to have other assistants to help in the routine work.

As is naturally expected the busiest hours for a camp library are in the evening from six-thirty to nine-thirty P. M. Since the library building is located across the street from one of the theatres, we usually have quite a number of borrowers who get their books either before or after going to the show. To be in such a convenient and prominent location is much of an improvement. Saturday and Sunday are usually the days on which the circulation is largest.

The Library, Service Club and theatres are all under the supervision of the Special Service Officer, Major Ray W. Hamilton. Because of this we are able to make of them one big unit which works together to provide wholesome recreation for the men in the camp. An interesting item to note is the fact that the library is one of the only places in an army camp which serves both the officers and enlisted men.

I can say very little to compare this library with other camp libraries as my knowledge of them is very limited. However, the collection of books is very good for such a small library (at present we have approximately 5900 volumes including gift books and those bought from PX funds). It is a collection made up of books for recreational reading mainly, but one which meets the demand for many non-fiction books as well. A day's work in a camp library is an entirely new and varied experience. During the day very few boys visit the library, however the ones

who do are usually the people to whom you are able to give the most individual service. One morning, for instance, a boy who had not finished high school before going into the army came to get an algebra, a geometry and an English book which would help him to continue his studies. Another boy had walked over to ascertain the spelling of some names so that he could use them correctly in a letter to his home. In the afternoon came an inquiry for a book on photography which included chemical formulas which were to be used in the Signal Photo Lab. Another boy came to get two World Almanacs one for himself and one for his sergeant who was too busy to come. A private interested in professional dancing spent several hours studying a book on that subject.

The library is quite often used as a means of settling disputes or arguments which the men have. Not unusual is an inquiry for a book on literature, history or some other such subject which will have information to use in proving a point in a dispute of this kind. As a rule the men visit the library to get books on subjects they are interested in. One night three new borrowers leaving called our attention to the fact that one had music books, another a mathematics book and the third a physics book.

Besides these requests there are numerous visitors who come to get books to read because as one remarked, he wouldn't have a "Hangover" if he used a book as a means of escape. The variety in the type of books chosen is very interesting. Of course, best sellers in fiction and non-fiction are frequently read, correspondents' stories of the war, westerns, mysteries, biographies and travel books, but the subjects which are extremely popular are mathematics of all kinds, electricity, psychology, French and Spanish books, chemistry, physics, radio and aeronautics. It is not at all unusual to have more non-fiction books circulate than fiction. Periodicals and newspapers also make up a large percentage of the reading materials used.

The variety of reading levels varies in any library but it is more noticeable in an army

library. To be able to meet the reading needs of a person who reads "Tarzan stories" as well as one who enjoys Voltaire's works is the work of a camp library. The technical side of library service and routines must be efficiently carried out, but the camp librarian's job is to do this so easily and efficiently that her only job appears to be assisting in the selection of books for recreation and study. This is a difficult goal to reach but one which it is worth working to attain.

## Ship's Library

Naval Air Station, Houma

*G. W. Bruffey, Ship's Librarian*

Our library here is strictly a Navy set-up with all naval personnel in its operation.

We have about 1500 books that are available for circulation to the men attached to this station and the period in which they may keep them is seven days; of course they may renew them for the same period of time if they care to. All our books we have were sent to us from the Bureau of Navy Personnel, Navy Dept., Wash. D. C.

Our library hours are from 10:00 to 11:30 and 1300 to 1600.

We have two rooms in the recreational building for the housing of our library, one is for the actual book shelves and place of issue while the other one is set aside for a reading room only.

Our library here has been in operation just a month today and will say that the men here sure take advantage of it as every day I issue from 30 to 60 books so you see from the fact that we are a small base that is a fine showing.

We have what I think the finest selection of books for a library as small as ours is that is possible to produce and any number of technical books on all subjects pertaining to flying, and all our other books are new editions and up to the minute both for old and modern authors.

We have subscribed to about 25 leading periodicals and hope to be receiving them soon, also several town newspapers.



## Camp Claiborne Library

*By Nina Mitchell and Barbara Bell,  
Librarians*

The library at Camp Claiborne was opened in June, 1941. Miss Beth Skoog organized the library and was in charge until May, 1943. After Miss Skoog's transfer to the Aviation Cadet Center at San Antonio, Miss Nina Mitchell, formerly supervisor of school libraries in Dayton, Ohio, took charge. Due to the growth of the camp, plans were made to open a new library at West Claiborne for the Engineers Unit Training Center, which is located several miles from the first library. Miss Mitchell began the organization of the library at West Claiborne in September, and the opening was held on the 25th.

Miss Barbara Bell, formerly with the East Baton Rouge Parish Library, replaced Miss Mitchell at Library No. 1. The library is located in the balcony of the service club. There are writing facilities, newspapers, and magazines on the open sides of the balcony. The library itself is attractively furnished, but smaller than desirable. The collection consists of about 5000 books. The circulation is not large—but the books are used a great deal in the library.

The most frequent requests are for maps of all sorts, technical books (Math, physics, military science, etc.), best sellers, and books of army life and humor. Westerns and mysteries are, as always, quite popular. Hemingway, Farrell, and Thorne Smith are widely read.

The library is quite indebted to the many people who have contributed newspapers, magazines, and books for the use of the soldiers.

The new library at West Claiborne is housed in a separate building across from Service Club No. 3. There are about 3000 books in process of preparation, about 1000 of which are being circulated. This collection is already being supplemented. The books were selected with the needs of the Engineers in mind. This is the new and ex-

panding section of the post, consequently the use of the library should be large.

There is to be an artists' corner in the library for the use of the many artistically inclined. This will include materials for art work, as well as art books.

The station hospital has a library of its own provided by the American Red Cross. Travelling libraries are furnished for the day rooms throughout the camp. There is a library for colored soldiers at Service Club No. 2. Thus an effort has been made to provide reading material for all those interested.

---

## Service Club Library No. 2 Camp Claiborne, La.

*My Mary C. Proctor, Librarian*

The Service Club Library No. 2, Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, serves the Negro military personnel of the camp. The North wing of the club houses the library and altho the seating capacity is limited the men enjoy the chance to take turns at sitting awhile and reading. From seventy-five to one hundred and fifty men go in and out of the library daily and on one Sunday one hundred and ninety-eight were counted during the afternoon. At one time there were forty-three men standing around reading papers and periodicals.

Fifty government-owned periodicals, supplemented by forty daily and weekly newspapers that are donated, about nineteen hundred government-owned books and six hundred gift books constitute the reading material available to the men. The monthly average range of circulation falls between eleven and thirteen hundred.

Frequently the question is asked: What do your patrons read? These men read just about the same as other men do. Quite naturally they look to their own publications for news and information that affect more intimately their social and economic life and progress. This is due largely to the fact that the daily press fails for the most part to re-

cord worthwhile activities of the Negro. Specifically they are interested in mathematics, sciences, latest fiction, travel and biography. The younger men here now are so recently out of the school-room that their emphasis seems to be in mathematics, languages, and the study of the military service branches that are open to them.

Thru a bulletin board the effort is being made to attract the attention of those who might pass in and out because here is no room to sit. Articles pertinent to good race relations and current events with morale-building emphasis are posted.

A plan is on foot to have regular book reviews presented weekly for half-hour periods in the library—a feature thru which we hope to encourage listeners as well as readers.

In the spring a group of men selected from various companies compiled a set of manuals to be used in the Special Training Unit conducted by the 2nd Headquarters, 3rd Army, for illiterates. They used the library daily during the closed periods thus being allowed free discussions. Books from the library were used and many gift books were allocated to the Unit for teaching purposes. The subjects covered by the manuals were history, arithmetic, personal hygiene, military courtesy and spelling.

---

## Station Hospital Library N. O. P. E.

*By Mrs. John Grainger, Librarian*

In August, 1942, a Station Hospital at Camp Harahan emerged from the wooded section lying on the outskirts of New Orleans, Louisiana. This military installation contained every branch which would enable it to carry on the valuable services for which it was dedicated. In the hospital blueprint a Library was included, whose main function would be to offer reading material for soldier patients assigned to the hospital. While the immediate objective would be to furnish reading enjoyment during convalescent hours, it

could offer as well, the incentive for study and edifying experiences with new book friends.

At first, the Library was placed under the operation and supervision of the American Red Cross staff assigned to the post. Patriotic citizens from nearby communities supplied the books. As the Library grew in size and popularity, however, it became apparent that the Red Cross staff was unable to give it the time and care it needed. Because of this, the Commanding Officer of the Hospital decided to put the Library under the direct supervision of a trained librarian. Mrs. John Grainger, from the library staff of Tulane University, was chosen for the job and reported to the hospital on June 16, 1943.

At the time Mrs. Grainger took up her duties, the Library was located in a small room adjacent to the lounge in the Army Athletic and Recreation building. It is in this building that the Red Cross program is housed and functions. While this lounge was being used for patients to visit with guests, it was felt that if a cheerful spot could be provided in one corner of the recreation hall, the lounge might then become the needed place for a reading room. This was done with the aid and cooperation of the Red Cross staff. As a lounge the room was attractively equipped. Now, the problem was to make this into an inviting reading room. Attractive curtains were hung; reading lamps, work tables and chairs were provided. The Utilities Officer had shelves built upon which books might be placed. Sturdy magazine racks were purchased. The small workroom became a storeroom and office for the librarian and her assistants. The latter were three enlisted men assigned to the library under the librarian's direct supervision. Here, then, was the foundation. One more task remained and the library could "open for business." While many good books had been contributed by these thoughtful citizens, others were not usable because they were either out of date, too juvenile, or were upon subjects which would not be of interest to these men. The librarian checked through each book; decided whether it was worth

shelf space; and classified accordingly. The Dewey Decimal Classification System was used. When this was done, an appropriation from the Hospital Fund was made available for the purchase of new books, current periodicals and newspapers.

With the rapid expansion, administrative work mounted and an Officer of the Medical Administrative Corps, Lieutenant Theodore Stergiades, was placed in charge of the Library to handle all administrative matters.

Here is a typical working day for the librarian and her associates:

From eight o'clock in the morning until ten, books in the library are returned to shelves according to classifications and new books are catalogued. From ten until noon, wards are visited so that bed patients may make selections from the attractive book cart which is wheeled right into the ward, often to the bedside. Here, the men can choose from the varied assortment on the cart and those books which the bedfast patient wishes to return are taken at the same time. The Library itself is officially open from two o'clock in the afternoon until five and from six until eight-thirty.

At the present time, the Library has approximately three thousand copies with a daily circulation of over one hundred books. The most popular selections are current biographies, mystery and recent fiction. At any time during the day, you will find soldier patients in the reading room perusing periodicals or busy in research.

The Library is still young, but it is out of its infancy. Its health is good and the prognosis is bright . . . very bright.

---

## De Ridder Army Air Base

*By Stella Thacker, Librarian*

This is a comparatively new library; it was opened in June. The former librarian left the middle of August and I have been here only since then.

The library building was formerly a C. C. building, although it is fixed up to look much more attractive than that sounds. We

have a seating capacity of about forty, with new tables, chairs, charging desk, and cushioned chairs and settees.

The Government has furnished us about three hundred and fifty technical books, and we have around fifteen hundred others. We expect to add to this number in the near future. A "Traveling Library" of approximately one hundred books is with us all the time. These libraries are well-balanced collections of recent books. We subscribe to about thirty newspapers and forty-five magazines.

There are a number of Day Rooms in the Base which we furnish with some reading material, as well as sending what we can to the hospital. The main library is used by the men not only as a place in which to read and check out books, but also as a place in which to write letters and to feel at home.

If there is any specific information which you would like to have, we shall be glad to furnish it.

---

## Camp Library, Camp Beauregard

*By Private Jack R. Bachman,  
Camp Library Section*

On June 1st 1943, Camp Beauregard Library was placed in charge of Special Service Section, 2nd Lt. Morton Eronstone in charge. Ample funds were allocated for complete reorganization, including purchase of new books, fixtures, and supplies. Work began immediately.

Inadequate shelves were replaced with new ones; library tables were installed; building was cleaned inside and out. Books were rearranged; files were brought up to date; supplies and several hundred books were ordered. We publicised our efforts in the daily administrative bulletin. Library began operating under new army regulations, with continued observance of Rapides Parish Library rules, in so far as their books were concerned. (Most of the books on hand at this time belonged to Rapides Parish Library.)

Throughout this reorganization period, Miss Sally Farrell, Rapides Parish Librarian had been most helpful. Attendance had already increased during this first month of renovation.

During the month of July, a noticeable increase in book circulation and attendance was registered, and much more library equipment was received, including a large Globe Map and a Newspaper Rack. Over three hundred of the new books had arrived and had been made ready for circulation. Accession work was completed on these new additional books.

All in all, it has been a month of much activity. Two men have been kept busy checking, listing, stamping, and preparing the new books for circulation, in addition to routine duties.

Throughout the previous two months, over four hundred more books were entered into the library Accession Book, now making a grand total of seven hundred and seventeen government owned.

This vast collection of literature represents most of the well known authors and their newest and best works.

At present, Camp Beauregard has a library that is a credit to the Camp, and as evidence of its importance as an essential part of the camp, our attendance and book circulation has far surpassed anything in the past, and we of the library section are conscious of that fact and hope for continued success and stability in the coming activities of our Post Library.

---

## Camp Livingston Library No. 2

*By Mrs. Hazel Edwards Wright, Librarian*

Post Library No. 2, Camp Livingston, is a standard Army balcony-type library situated in Service Club No. 2. It serves several thousand colored troops on the post.

Between 5,000 and 6,000 volumes are contained in five double stacks and two single stacks. Titles cover the widest possible range

and include all the latest fiction and non-fiction "best-sellers." Among the more widely read books are those dealing with World War II, biography, the standard classics, "refresher courses" issued by the Army to help its personnel continue their education while in service, detective stories and "Westerns."

The library subscribes to all leading newspapers and magazines. Special efforts are made to obtain subscriptions to newspapers published in the home states or cities of the men. Magazines run the gamut of every type and taste, from "Fortune" to "Famous Funnies."

Meeting the special requirement of an Army camp, the library has attempted to develop the atmosphere of a men's lounge. There are large, durable, leather-covered arm chairs, ash trays and writing desks. Electric fans and window awnings add to the readers' comfort in warm weather. Colorful draperies, potted and daily cut flowers add to the beauty of the room.

Charging and typing desks adjoin, situated in an L-shaped unit at left entrance of the library. Opposite is a poster and book-shelf display of material issued by the Armed Forces Institute, self-educational agency for the men in service.

Present seating capacity of the library is 40-45.

Weekly "bull-sessions" of the "Personality Guild" are held in the library for discussion of various topics.

---

## COLLEGE AND REFERENCE LIBRARIES

LOUISIANA POLYTECHNIC  
INSTITUTE

Three years ago we joyfully announced the awarding of the Carnegie grant, and now we regretfully announce that like all mundane things it has come to an end. But the grant has resulted in inestimable and enduring values to the library and the institution which it serves. The advantages are more far reaching than would be indicated by the



amount expended or the number of books added. A sampling of titles representing some of the important additions to the collection is as follows:

American catalogue; 1876-1910

Biblioteca de Autores Espanoles

Cambridge bibliography of English literature

Dictionary of national biography

Encyclopedie de l'Armement

Evans: American bibliography

Library of Congress catalog of printed books

National cyclopedia of American biography

Nile's Register. September 7, 1811 to and including February 1847

Union list of serials

Writers' program: Guides to all the states

With the installation of the navy v-12 program, the college has adopted the tri-semester plan which means increased hours of services for the library. Officers and men of the nearby prisoner-of-war camp are also making use of the library's resources.

This summer marked the end of the first year of indexing the local newspaper.

Miss Kathleen Graham, assistant librarian, hopes to complete this fall an enlarged and revised edition of her monograph on the history of Lincoln Parish.

Not every librarian is so fortunate as to have at hand such an able kibitzer as Mr. John Hall Jacobs of the New Orleans Public Library who is helping to navigate the navy v-12 program in the way it should go. It is a commentary on something or other (we prefer not to go too deeply into that matter) that it took a World War to bring Lt. Jacobs to Ruston. We are quite sure that both the navy and the library will benefit from his sojourn here.

#### LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LIBRARY

Mr. W. D. Postell, Librarian, Louisiana State University, School of Medicine recently attended the meeting at Birmingham of the Southern Regional Committee of the Social Science Research Council, as member

of the committee for the study of health conditions in the South. Mr. Postell served on this committee in the capacity of a Southern Medical Historian.

The library of the Department of Nursing Education of the Louisiana State University, School of Medicine, became affiliated with the library of the School of Medicine and will function henceforth as a branch of the latter library.

#### LOYOLA UNIVERSITY

The library like many others in the country has been greatly affected by the war.

The decrease in the student body has created a new situation and a strange turn in the type of reading that is now being done. Although the acceleration program leaves little time for leisure reading, many of the students seem to make time to read: fiction, newspapers and current periodicals! They seem to feel the need for a definite change over from study to lighter literature and to current events.

Nearly all this reading is done within the library in odd moments snatched from serious study. Hence circulation of home loans has decreased whereas library use has greatly increased.

The library staff too has decreased: two members of the staff, Miss Lemann, head of circulation and reference, and Miss Riley, head of periodicals and documents, have left to take positions in army libraries.

#### NORTHEAST JUNIOR COLLEGE

The Army has taken over the second floor of the library building as a dormitory and the first floor as a study hall for the A. S. T. P. unit established at the College in August. One end of the library has been reserved for the use of civilian students. The engineering students report to the Reference and Reading Room of the library for all of the required 24 hours of supervised study each week. The library is now open from 5-7 p. m. for additional reading of the military group. Besides the usual reference and loan service furnished to all library users, the staff has been called on to answer many questions on

the community and to advise on personal problems of the military group.

A description and photograph of the Library War Information Center was printed in the May issue of *Louisiana Education In Wartime*.

Mrs. Louise Gray Lemert who was on leave of absence in April and May has now returned to her position for the regular session.

#### STEPHENS MEMORIAL LIBRARY SOUTHWESTERN LOUISIANA INSTITUTE

Two new staff members have been added to replace some, who have resigned. Miss Maud Merritt Cook, formerly of L. S. U. is head of the Catalogue Department and replaces Miss Helen Jones, who accepted a position in California. Mr. Louis Broussard, a teacher from the schools of St. Martin Parish, is employed as an assistant in the library.

Library instruction is being given to all Freshmen. It is a one hour per week course and carries one hour credit. Miss Tressie Cook and Miss Pearl Segura are teaching the classes.

To meet the new demands made on the library by the naval students, we have had to extend the library hours to 10:30 p. m. On Sundays the library is open from 7:00 to 10:30 p. m. During the evening hours the girls are required to use the reading rooms on the first floor and the men students use those on the second floor. All naval students have to check in and out with the naval guard, who is located on the second floor.

During a leave of absence this summer, Miss Irene Pope worked on her M. S. in L. S. at the University of Illinois.

#### SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA COLLEGE

Miss Patricia Catlett, cataloger, has a leave of absence for the duration and is librarian at Fort Taylor, Key West, Florida.

Miss Ethel L. Malcolm is librarian of the Southeastern Training School Library. She replaces Mrs. Adine Jones.

## PUBLIC LIBRARIES

### SHREVE MEMORIAL LIBRARY:

Miss Anne Kersksieck, new Boys' & Girls' Librarian, formerly of the Memphis Public.

Miss Mattie Sue Mounce, Cataloger, from the Texas State Library.

Miss Helen Shaw, former staff member, is now with the Post Library at Barksdale Field, Shreveport.

Mrs. Reba Sponcelor is doing cataloging in the Parish and Regional Department, Louisiana Library Commission.

Miss Anne Giddens, former Parish Librarian, is Mrs. Robert Earl Evans of Chicago.

### NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC:

Librarian John Hall Jacobs, now Lieut. (j.g.) Jacobs, Naval Reserve, is located at Louisiana Tech, Ruston. The former head of the Adult Department, George King Logan, has been appointed Acting Librarian.

New staff members include:

*Helen Hutchinson*, graduate of Peabody Library School, *Rowena Pittman Forshag*, of L. S. U.; and *Edith Williams Ware*, a former faculty member of the Louise S. McGehee School, New Orleans.

Rence Miester is now working for the Ochsner Clinic, N. O.

Eleanor Cohen has been working with the Associated Press in New York since August.

Reading clubs for young people and children have flourished. At the New Orleans Public 420 children's reading certificates were awarded. The *Once Upon a Time Story Club* has been busy at Shreve Memorial. Boys and girls received 165 certificates for their summer reading.

Special displays and exhibits have been directly or indirectly related to the war effort. The most effective recent ones at Shreve were on the subjects: The United Nations, Women at War, They Burned the Books.

There has been a great demand on the New Orleans library services for technical materials, particularly shipbuilding. A popular new feature, the "Technology Alcove" in-

cludes reference books and those for circulation shelved in one section.

To meet the changing times the New Orleans Public has found it well to change some internal techniques. The Detroit Self-charging system has replaced the Newark system. All books circulate for 14 days and there is no limit to the number of books a person may borrow. The Reference and Circulation Departments have been consolidated into an Adult Department; and one separate desk takes care of the registration, charging and discharging. These changes make for greater efficiency and service.

## SCHOOL LIBRARY NOTES

School libraries in Louisiana are reflecting the times. According to a survey made last May from the office of the supervisor of school libraries, Department of Education, certain fairly constant factors seem to be influencing this type of library service. Pupils have less time for reading than formerly, but more reading is being done. The reading of non-fiction is increasing in a marked way. The periodical is entering into a new popularity; pamphlets are being acquired and organized by, literally, the hundreds. One school librarian reports the acquisition and organization of more than 500. There is an increased sharing of materials by elementary and high schools. The sudden injection into the curriculum of such interests as Pan-Americanism and the new geography have precipitated the most economical use of the materials that were available and it has been found that one piece of material often may be useful to elementary grade and high school alike. School Librarians are becoming materials and pamphlets.

School libraries, in common with all instructional endeavor, are feeling the personnel shortage. Some parishes are meeting this shortage in an interesting and logical way: a fully qualified and experienced school librarian is designated to help the inexperienced librarian or teacher-librarian in the actual or-

ganization of her material and the planning of her library service. This sharing of training and experience is being depended upon to help eliminate spotty service which might otherwise be the result of librarian shortage.

Importance of materials was stressed at all teacher's workshops which were held in Louisiana during the summer. Those at Gonzales (Ascension Parish), Ruston (Louisiana Polytechnic Institute), and New Orleans (Tulane), and those at Grambling (Negro Normal) and at Donaldsonville (Ascension Parish Negro teachers) all might be said, even by a non-librarian, to have revolved around a consideration of the availability, suitability and effectiveness of books and other material of instruction.

## Louisiana Library Commission

The Louisiana Library Commission will conduct its first demonstration of parishwide library service this year in Calcasieu parish, a resolution establishing the library having been adopted on September 7, by the Calcasieu police jury. The demonstration will be the first conducted by the commission since the appropriation of \$70,000 for such projects by the state board of liquidation.

Books for the demonstration are now being prepared for distribution in the parish and regional department of the commission and some 15,000 will probably be sent to Calcasieu. The new parish library will begin operation as soon as a librarian is elected and other preliminary work completed, according to Miss Essae M. Culver, executive secretary of the commission.

There is presently a library in Lake Charles but no service has been extended to the rural sections of the parish. The resolution establishing the parish project was adopted unanimously by the police jury and the demonstration will continue for a year after which the parish is expected to assume support of the library.

Other parish demonstrations are planned by the commission with the funds provided by the board of liquidation but additional parishes have not yet been selected. A num-

ber of applications are on file and are being considered.

Lyle Saxon, author of "Old Louisiana," "Lafitte the Pirate," and other Louisiana books, has been retained by the State of Louisiana to make available for public use the material gathered by the Louisiana Writers' Project of the WPA and hitherto unpublished. The material was presented to the Louisiana Library commission when the Writers' Project was closed and includes considerable historical information of value. The commission acted as sponsor for the Writer's Project and it was through Mr. Saxon that the unpublished material was presented to the commission.

Mr. Saxon is presently reading proofs on the book on Louisiana folklore, material for which was gathered by the writers' project. It will be published shortly, and Mr. Saxon and Eddie Dreyer, now in the United States Navy, who served as co-editor are delighted with the book. The volume is expected to be a valuable addition to Louisiana's folklore material and will contain numerous illustrations.

Miss Sara Irwin Jones, formerly director of the WPA library project, has been appointed an assistant on the staff of the Louisiana Library commission and will assist Miss Essae M. Culver, executive secretary, in the field work.

Also added to the commission staff are: Miss Sidney C. Simmons, formerly of Shreveport and more recently children's librarian in the New York Public library; Mrs. Reba C. Sponcler, formerly of the staff of the Shreve Memorial library in Shreveport, and Miss Ruby Tanner, formerly high school librarian at Farmerville. All are assisting in the commission's parish and regional department which has also employed a number of clerical assistants to aid in preparing for parish demonstrations. Among the latter are a group of Army wives, whose husbands are temporarily stationed in Baton Rouge.

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

### Examination

The board of library examiners will conduct an examination for administrative librarians in public libraries on Nov. 19 at 9:30 a. m. at the state capitol, it has been announced by J. Newt Ogden, director of the department of occupational standards.

Application blanks may be obtained from Mr. Ogden and only librarians with degrees from accredited library schools are eligible to take the examinations.

### Louisiana Librarian Honored

Miss Mary Louise Marshall has been named as one of a small group of librarians assisting in the survey of the Army Medical Library. Mr. Keyes D. Metcalf, Librarian of Harvard University, was authorized by the Executive Board of the American Library Association to act as chairman of the survey group. A grant of \$20,000.00 from the Rockefeller Foundation made the survey possible. Miss Marshall has recently been in New York and Washington for preliminary conferences.

### Katharine L. Sharp Scholarship

The Katharine L. Sharp scholarship, which carries a stipend of \$300 and exemption from tuition, will be awarded by the faculty of the University of Illinois Library School in March, 1944. The award is made for the second year of study in Library Science. Application should be filed with the Director of the School, R. B. Downs, Urbana, Illinois, before March 1. Application blanks may be secured upon request.

This scholarship was endowed in 1933 by the University of Illinois Library School Association as a memorial to the founder of the Library School. The present Katharine L. Sharp scholar is Miss Ethelyn Markley, who completed her first year of Library School training at the University of Oklahoma School of Library Science in 1931. Since 1940 she has been the head cataloger at the



University of Alabama. Among others who have held this scholarship are: Miss Lucy B. Foote, Head Cataloger, Hill Memorial Library, Louisiana State University, University, Louisiana.

### Subscriptions

At the annual meeting in April, it was pointed out that because of increased costs of production and the lack of support of some who should be advertisers, it might be necessary to ask subscription dues from some of the larger Louisiana libraries and from some outside agencies to which the Bulletin has heretofore been sent gratuitously. The first to respond to this suggestion have been the New Orleans Public Library and the Howard-Tilton Memorial Library. The subscription price to those who wish to add their support is \$2.00 a year.

### The Artigas--Washington Library of Montevideo

News of the library which Mr. Arthur Gropp, formerly of the Middle America Research Library, was chosen to direct, is gleaned from issues of *El Dia* of May 23 and *Proa* of May 30; both newspapers published in Montevideo.

The Artigas--Washington Library has been

founded in Montevideo, Uruguay. Mr. Arthur Gropp, Librarian of the Middle American Research Institute of the Tulane University of Louisiana who was sent by the American Council of Learned Societies expressly to found and organize the library is now busily engaged in cataloguing the almost 3,000 books which were shipped from the United States. Mrs. Jeanne Williams, formerly of the cataloguing department of the Louisiana State University, is one of the cataloguers.

The library occupies the building which was many years ago the residence of the President don Francisco Vidal. This library, the third of its kind to be established in Latin America, will strengthen and contribute to the cultural relations between the United States and Uruguay, through picture shows, art exhibits, conferences, and English conversation classes. The other two libraries of this type are the Benjamin Franklin Library in Mexico City and the "Americana" Library in Managua, Nicaragua.

Mr. Gropp is also directing a school for Librarians which he helped to organize. 55 students are registered for the course which ends in November and 100 others are waiting to begin. There is a plan under way to incorporate the school into the National University of Uruguay. Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Dorothy Geddes Gropp are taking an active part in the program of the school.

## LOUISIANA IN PRINT

Recent references on Louisiana or by Louisiana authors, including books of importance locally printed, selected, and annotated by Marguerite D. Renshaw, Reference Librarian, Howard-Tilton Memorial Library, New Orleans.

Barbour, Ralph Henry—Mystery on the Bayou. New York, Appleton-Century Co., 1943. 237 p. (Fiction.)

Barrett, Monte—Murder at Belle Camille. Indianapolis, Bobbs-Merrill, 1943. 288 p. (Fiction.)

Berezowsky, Alice Newman—Duet With Nicky. Philadelphia, Lippincott, 1943. 239 p.

Bristow, Gwen—Tomorrow is Forever. New York, Cromwell, 1943. (To appear in November.) (Fiction.)

Heartman, Charles I.—McMurtrie imprints. Hattiesburg, Privately printed for the Book Farm, 1942. 52 p.

Hotz, Robert B.—With General Chennault: The story of the Flying Tigers. New York, Coward-McCann, 1943. (To appear in November.)

Jefferson Parish Yearly Review, 1943. 171 p.  
 Judson, Clara Ingram—They came from France. Illustrated by Lois Lenski. Boston, Houghton Mifflin Co., 1943. 245 p. (Juvenile.)

Kane, Harnett T.—The bayous of Louisiana. Illustrated with drawings by Tilden Landry and photographs. New York, William Morrow & Co., 1943. 340 p.

Kemper, J. P. (of Fardoche, La.)—A plan for peace. 1943. 128 p.

Lenski, Lois—Bayou Suzette. New York, Frederick A. Stokes, 1943. 208 p. (Juvenile.)

Louisiana. Department of finance. Division of the budget. Baton Rouge, Franklin Press, 1943. 45 p. (Statement of bonded indebtedness as at June 30, 1943.)

Louisiana. Department of public works. Handbook for parish planning. A guide for parish planning board, by Roy H. Odom. Baton Rouge, 1943. 121 p.

Louisiana conference of Social Welfare Proceedings. Monroe, Monroe Printing Co., 1943. 77 p.

Louisiana Garden Club Federation. Eighth year book, 1943-1944. Compiled and edited by Mrs. Ben G. Coulter and Mrs. T. B. McDuff, 1943. 52 p.

Marchand, Sidney A.—Acadian Exiles in the Golden Coast of Louisiana. Donaldsonville, La., 1943. 109 p.

Mason, Miriam Evangeline—Young Audubon, boy naturalist. Indianapolis, Bobbs-Merrill, 1943. 198 p. (Juvenile.)

Meade, Robert Douglas—Judah P. Benjamin. New York, Oxford University Press, 1943. 432 p.

Medical Library Association. A Handbook of medical library practice. Chicago, A. L. A., 1943. 640 p. (Chapter X by Mary Louise Marshall of the Rudolph Matas Medical Library of the Tulane University, in collaboration with M. Irene Jones.)

Mims, Sam—Chennault of the Flying Tigers; with illustrations by Edward Shenton. Philadelphia, Macrae Smith Co., 1943. 255 p.

*Wholesale Distributors of*

## BOOKS, MAGAZINES AND STATIONERY

Liberal Discounts to Libraries

Prompt and Individual Handling  
of All Orders

## THE NEW ORLEANS NEWS COMPANY

214 Decatur Street  
New Orleans, Louisiana

## Charles F. Heartman

*The Book Farm,  
Hattiesburg, Mississippi*

AMERICANA PRINTED AND IN  
MANUSCRIPT

Duplicates bought and exchanged.

Forty seven states now have state-wide library extension agencies, according to the annual report of the American Library Association, just published in the October 15 issue of the A.L.A. Bulletin. New additions to the roster of states with this educational service are South Carolina and Wyoming, which are now enabled by law and state funds to supplement the service of established public libraries and to carry on some public library service by mail in areas without local facilities.